

Fact Sheet: Yes Montgomery Can!

Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend of Service & Sacrifice, January 16-20, 2009

Contacts: Rabbi Sarah Meytin, JCRC of Greater Washington
301-770-0881, smeytin@jcouncil.org;

Bruce Adams, County Executive's Office of Community Partnerships
240-7772558, bruce.adams@montgomerycountymd.gov

Ashish Sinha, Yes Montgomery Can!
301-348-7367, volunteer@yesmontgomerycan.org

What? The "Yes Montgomery Can!" campaign is a grass roots movement to encourage Montgomery County residents to help the County's neediest families and individuals. The campaign hopes to inspire people to:

- Collect food to restock the county's food banks
- Volunteer and join 1000s of volunteers across the county on MLK Day and throughout the year
- Donate money to match a generous donor's contribution to the Community Foundation "Neighbors in Need Montgomery" Fund.

This is the chance for all Montgomery County residents to answer President-Elect Obama's call for a new spirit of service and sacrifice.

Why? Many of our neighbors right here in Montgomery County are facing foreclosures; many need food stamps. Requests for food at the Manna Food Center in November were 56% higher than November 2007. The number of County residents in pain and economic hardship grows every day. Montgomery's historic commitment to people is being severely tested.

"Yes Montgomery Can!" volunteers will knock on 50,000 doors and hand out flyers at METRO stations to encourage people to go to our website – www.yesmontgomerycan.org – to:

- Join our team by making the "Yes Montgomery Can!" pledge.
- Contribute to the Montgomery County Community Foundation's "Neighbors in Need Montgomery" matching fund to support emergency services for the poor.
- Donate food to the Manna Food Center on MLK Day (January 19, 2009).
- Volunteer to serve on MLK Day (January 19, 2009).
- Sign-up to volunteer to serve this year with a community non-profit organization.

When? Monday January 19, 2009 is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Tuesday January 20, 2009, is Inauguration Day, a day that will bring to the Presidency a leader who has issued a remarkably clear and compelling call to service and sacrifice. We are using this long weekend as our springboard to galvanize support for those in need, and as a seed to grow volunteerism and community service year round.

Who? County Executive Ike Leggett's Office of Community Partnerships has joined with the Jewish Community Relations Council to lead community collaboration -- Yes Montgomery Can! -- to mobilize thousands of Montgomery County residents to take action to help our neighbors in need.

Sponsors as of 12/29: Choice Hotels Foundation, Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Foundation, Comcast, Eagle Bank, Garson Claxton LLC, Gazette, Giant, HandsOn Network, Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, Marriott, Montgomery County Government, M&T Bank, Sandglass, Signs by Tomorrow, and Whole Foods.

Community partners as of 12/29: Gap Buster Learning Center, Impact Silver Spring, Jewish Community Center, Jewish Volunteer Connection, Manna Food Center, Montgomery County Community Foundation, Montgomery County Corporate Volunteer Council, Montgomery County Volunteer Center, NAACP Youth Leadership Council, and the NAACP.

You can make a difference! Yes, you can! Yes Montgomery can!

Volunteer on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Montgomery County Locations

Preregistration is requested for all events.

All locations will be collecting nonperishable food items for the Manna Food Center.

Location: BETHESDA NORTH MARRIOTT HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

Address: 5701 Marinelli Road, North Bethesda (corner of Rockville Pike and Marinelli Rd, across from the White Flint Metro). Easy access by Metro

Time: 1:00pm to 3:30pm

Contact: Montgomery County Volunteer Center, 240-777-2600

In addition to service projects, this year we will feature a Volunteer Fair where individuals can learn about ongoing volunteer opportunities in Montgomery County. Service projects will include making Valentine's Day cards for the Orphans Foundation, decorating bookmarks and cards for children with cancer and other terminal illnesses, packing snow day baskets for county-wide Meals on Wheels programs, learning how to register as a bone marrow donor, and attending sessions by the Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County.

Location: EAST COUNTY REGIONAL SERVICES CENTER

Address: 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring

Time: 10:00am to 12:30pm

Contact: 240-777-8400

Projects and activities are family oriented. These include making cards for seniors, visiting nursing homes, financial planning advice, computer internet instruction for seniors, learning about the citizenship process, and hearing a storyteller share about the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Location: GAPBUSTER LEARNING CENTER

Address: 8216 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring

Time: 11:00am - 3:00pm

Contact: 301-588-5500

This day of service and celebration will include arts and crafts, a health expo, watching and discussing a movie about civil rights and Dr. King, and pledging 40 Days of Non-Violence.

Location: GERMANTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

Address: 18905 Kingsview Road, Germantown

Time: 9:00am to 3:00pm

This event, hosted by the NAACP Youth Leadership Council will be a fun-filled day of service activities, workshops, videos and discussion, and community outreach.

Location: JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Address: 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville

Time: 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Nonprofit volunteer fair, volunteer workshop, winter clothing food drive, and more.

Other sites to be announced soon.

**Food Collection Sites benefiting the Manna Food Center
Saturday January 17 and Sunday January 18 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Flagship Giant #125 12051 Rockville Pike Rockville	Westbard Giant #357 5400 Westbard Ave. Bethesda	Potomac Giant #198 9812 Falls Rd. Potomac	Kentlands Giant #320 316 Kentlands Blvd. Gaithersburg
---	--	--	--